

Annual Report 2020



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A Word: Bill DiMento

Such achievements show that those who persevere to do the right thing ultimately stand the best chance of succeeding. They also serve as a further demonstration that the collective knowledge and resources that GSSI and its Global Partners possess are truly extraordinary.

New partners

GSSI was delighted to welcome two new funding partners in 2020: the Peruvian fishery, Tecnológica de Alimentos S.A. (TASA); and the Iberostar Group, headquartered in Spain, which is our first partner from the tourism industry – expanding our reach into a significant, new sector. We also welcomed one new affiliated partner, FishChoice, who is the largest online resource for seafood sustainability information. This dynamic growth to our partnership furthers our journey and mission, ensuring confidence and promoting improvement in the seafood certification process across the globe.

Program development

Our Global Benchmark Tool serves as a worldwide “go-to” for the formal recognition of seafood certification schemes. In 2020, it continued to demonstrate its reliability and

functionality as a global reference point in the fight to minimize the overall environmental impact of how we produce, catch and supply seafood to meet the soaring global demand. That said, big steps were taken this past year to upgrade the tool, and we expect that the second version will be launched in 2021.

This update is set to both improve and simplify the solution, while still upholding the benchmark rigor and its alignment with Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations’ (FAO) guidelines.

In March 2020, GSSI and the Sustainable Trade Initiative launched Seafood MAP to accelerate the supply and availability of sustainable seafood worldwide. Moving forward, Seafood MAP will provide a responsible roadmap for seafood industry buyers, retailers, foodservice distributors and operators to engage with fisheries and aquaculture operations that do not currently have the resources to achieve certification.

GSSI also maintains that social responsibility in the seafood sector cannot be ignored. As such, we have continued our collaboration with The Consumer Goods Forum’s Sustainable

Supply Chain Initiative (SSCI) to develop seafood-specific criteria for the SSCI’s social compliance benchmark. We look forward to continuing the work that is underway to address concerns surrounding labor conditions in the seafood supply chain, in coordination with SSCI.

Eyes on the horizon

While 2020 proved a defining year in many ways, we remain very much focused on the future and the challenge of sustainably feeding a rapidly growing world population.

Because it is widely expected that the consumer landscape that meets us once we all fully emerge from the COVID crisis will be one that is unfamiliar, at GSSI, we see it as our role to help others successfully navigate this “new normal.” We anticipate that the strong relationship that our secretariat has with the FAO will help ensure that we remain on the correct path. At the same time, we hope that in 2021 our collaborative endeavors will involve a great deal more face-to-face engagement with our partners and stakeholders than we have all become accustomed to in recent times.

I think we can all agree that 2020 was a year like no other. It was and continues to be an incredibly trying period for many economies, businesses, communities, and people all around the world, which is why I want to take this opportunity to express my sympathy to all those affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Despite the unprecedented circumstances and the challenges seen on so many levels, 2020 proved to be a year of strength, development and collaboration for the Global Sustainable Seafood Initiative (GSSI). While much of our engagement had to be conducted in a virtual manner rather than in person, we continued to grow and to consolidate our position as a world leading organization in the sustainable seafood certification space.



A Word: Herman Wisse

Clarity, Confidence and Choice

certified seafood while also minimizing environmental impacts at all stages of the value chain.

Additionally, we advanced the understanding that sustainability is linked to much more than just environmental regulations. Our continued collaboration with the Consumer Goods Form Sustainable Supply Chain Initiative, to advance a seafood-specific social benchmarking tool, has led to a multi-dimensional take on seafood sustainability that is inclusive of social standards.

At the same time, it is clear that sustainability should not be overlooked in the uncertified seafood space. It is for this reason that we joined forces with IDH, The Sustainable Trade Initiative. This alliance will further progress the Seafood MAP project that supports small-scale fishing and farming.

Extraordinary circumstances

For most of us, COVID-19 brought unforeseeable circumstances. Amid all the adversity and uncertainty of the past year, GSSI has worked closely with its recognized Scheme Owners to provide consistent policy and clear guidance for those stakeholders wishing to continue

their recognition status while managing the impacts of the pandemic and other extraordinary events. Despite this very challenging period, GSSI also continued to progress the alignment of global efforts and resources to address seafood sustainability challenges.

Market engagement

In response to the pandemic and travel restriction measures, the coordination of most seafood events changed dramatically in 2020. Nevertheless, GSSI still took the opportunity to participate in multiple online gatherings throughout the year which brought together experts from around the world to discuss seafood sustainability and the challenges we face. These events included the Market Advisory's Council Workshop on Voluntary Sustainability Claims on Seafood Products, Seafood 2030 and the Tokyo Sustainable Seafood Symposium 2020.

Our participation in global sustainability events continues to be very important to us, and we are looking forward to again joining industry experts in the year ahead.

Resilience and commitment

The unprecedented events of 2020

underlined the power of teamwork. Despite the travel restrictions, the combined efforts of the GSSI team made sure that we continued to build trusting relationships with our partners and stakeholders. Of equal importance, we also maintained the delivery of valuable information. Furthermore we have seen great participation of our partners in our online work programmes.

The GSSI secretariat has grown to seven members this year, all of whom play a fundamental role in implementing our strategic plan and the day-to-day operations of the organization. Meanwhile, the team behind GSSI is continuing to work in conjunction with the partnership to bring clarity, confidence, and choice to the forefront of the global seafood agenda. We therefore remain supremely confident about the future growth and development of sustainable seafood globally.

Because the seafood sector faces complex sustainability challenges at multiple levels, one of GSSI's most critical roles is to provide stakeholders all over the world with the tools and information necessary to make **clear, confident choices**. GSSI's public-private partnership possesses the capacity to ensure that these complexities are met with clear-cut, viable solutions. Furthermore, by advocating sector-wide collaboration, we are confident of providing a future where there is more sustainable seafood for everyone.

Inclusive sustainability

GSSI is a comprehensive organization of global partners that are **collectively working towards a sustainable future for the world of seafood**. In 2020, GSSI's Global Benchmark Tool continued to deliver new levels of confidence in

GSSI in Numbers

90+

stakeholders are part of the
GSSI Global Partnership

3

new Partners
joined GSSI

9

GSSI **recognized certification**
schemes

170

attendees for the Seafood MAP
Public Launch

43

stakeholders participated in GSSI-SSCI
Stakeholder Meetings

8

events were attended by the
GSSI Secretariat



A photograph showing two men working on a fishing boat deck. The man on the left is wearing a bright yellow rain jacket and is focused on a task. The man on the right is wearing a blue rain jacket and a grey cap, also working. They are surrounded by fishing nets and equipment. The background shows the sea and other parts of the boat.

■ The GSSI Global Partnership

A shared ambition to deliver more sustainable seafood

Overcoming constraints brought by the COVID-19 pandemic, GSSI's partnership continued to come together in 2020, with global stakeholders dedicating time and expertise to GSSI projects, and also engaging with the GSSI Secretariat and the broader seafood industry.

As leaders in the seafood sustainability space, GSSI Partners did not miss a beat – driving our work streams forward. Endeavors included **participating in Expert Working Groups** for the revision of the Global Benchmark Tool and crafting

criteria for a social benchmark tool for the seafood sector. Partners also **raised awareness for our work programs**, using our tools in their day-to-day operations, speaking at virtual events on behalf of GSSI while highlighting their unique business perspectives, and voicing support for GSSI's solutions.

The GSSI Partnership also embraced its role to steer the initiative by completing surveys and participating in one-on-one partner interviews to shape future strategic directions.

Our Growing Partnership

Despite the impacts of COVID-19, GSSI continued to grow in 2020. The Partnership welcomed two new Funding Partners, Tecnológica de Alimentos S.A. (TASA), a Peruvian fishery and Iberostar Group, the first partner from the tourism sector. In addition, one Affiliated Partner joined the GSSI Partnership, FishChoice. Upholding GSSI's collaborative and pre-competitive spirit, our growing partnership – spanning the private and public sector – remains united in the ambition to ensure that the future brings more sustainable seafood for everyone.

New Partners

Funding

Iberostar

"Our new partnership with GSSI is pivotal to us reaching our goal of 100% responsible seafood consumption by 2025. We are looking forward to working with them and utilizing the benchmarking tool as an opportunity to expand our responsible seafood procurement and support their new initiative Seafood MAP," said **Adriana Sanchez**, Responsible Seafood Strategy Director for **Iberostar**.

TASA

"We believe the experience that GSSI can provide will help us in achieving our high goals as well as we can participate in a space where we can share our knowledge while learning from our partners around the world," said **Dereck Zimmermann**, Central fishing manager of **TASA**.

Affiliated

FishChoice

"This partnership exemplifies the spirit of collaboration by bringing together the most recognized benchmark of seafood sustainability certifications with the largest online resource for seafood sustainability information. FishChoice is proud to ensure that all certifications on FishChoice.com have been benchmarked to GSSI's performance areas and looks forward to adding more certifications and certified suppliers in the near future," said **Richard Boot**, Founder and CEO of **FishChoice**.



New Partners

- **IBEROSTAR**
- **TASA**
- **FISHCHOICE**

A Global Reach

Since 2013, the GSSI Global Partnership has continued to grow and expand its global reach, with 24 countries represented by both Funding and Affiliated Partners.

• 74 Funding Partners



• 9 Recognized Schemes



• 14 Affiliated Partners



Value of Partnership

GSSI's Partnership of 90+ collaborative organizations and companies are dedicated to leading the seafood sector in striving for clarity, confidence and choice in seafood sustainability. Today spanning five continents, the Partnership is made up of Funding and Affiliated partners that play an extremely important role in guiding GSSI's work and priorities.

Over GSSI's eight-year existence, our Funding Partners have grown in number to comprise 74 for-profit companies and trade associations, while our Affiliated Partnership of public and non-profit organizations has now reached 14 different entities. Each lends support and their own distinctive expertise to our work and contributes to our holistic public-private partnership initiative.

Thank you to all of our Partners! Without your wonderful support, expert knowledge and insights, and participation, GSSI would not be anywhere near as effective as it is today.

Become part of the solution

GSSI welcomes any company or organization active within the seafood sector to join the Global Partnership (excluded from this are certification schemes, standards and ratings bodies). To learn more about becoming a GSSI Partner, please contact us.

**BENCHMARK
TOOL**

■ The GSSI Global Benchmark Tool

2020 was not only an important year for the Global Benchmark Tool, but a successful one too. Despite the considerable challenges posed by COVID-19, we were able to continue both our benchmarking work under version 1.0, as well as to lay the foundations for version 2.0 of the tool.

Highlights included the collaboration with GSSI-recognized Scheme Owners to continue to ensure their certification programs' credibility and finalizing the

revision of the Benchmark Framework. GSSI has worked hard to mitigate the impacts of COVID-19 and has continued to stay focused and work in a digital environment, allowing us to continue working towards a v2.0 launch in 2021.

Clear Guidance

To provide consistent policy and clear guidance for GSSI-recognized Scheme Owners while managing the impacts of the pandemic, a Management of Extraordinary Events Policy was published. This policy is unique for the Global Benchmark Tool. **We greatly appreciate the level of transparency and willingness that certification programs have shown towards this policy.** Read more about the policy on [page 13](#) of the Report.

2020 Highlights

9

Recognized Schemes

3

MOCA's Completed

2

Scheme Owner Advisory
Group Meeting

2

Public Consultations

13

Stakeholders provided
comments

32

Expert Working Group
Partner Members

Nine GSSI Recognized Certifications



GSSI's Scheme Owner Advisory Group

The Scheme Owner Advisory Group (SOAG) consists of representatives from GSSI-recognized Scheme Owners and is set up to facilitate direct communication between the GSSI Steering Board and those scheme owners.

In April 2020, the first meeting of the GSSI Scheme Owner Advisory Group took place.

In November 2020, the SOAG joined a Steering Board meeting for the first time, to express its interests and input directly to GSSI's Board. Moving forward,

the SOAG will attend the Steering Board meeting once annually.

The SOAG has already proved a significant contributor to strengthening the relationship between GSSI and GSSI-recognized Scheme Owners, and to be of tremendous value to the Secretariat in understanding the developments and needs of the recognized schemes.

Essentially, the SOAG provides a forum for sharing and knowledge exchange with a non-competitive spirit. In SOAG meetings or as part of the collaboration activities,

members do not discuss, communicate or exchange information relating to prices, marketing and advertising strategy, cost and revenues.

The SOAG's purpose is to:

- Ensure transparency within GSSI's current and future projects
- Provide strategic advice to GSSI in relation to its ongoing value proposition to the industry, and in relation to its collaborations with funding partners to strengthen and increase the effectiveness of the incorporation of seafood certified under a GSSI-recognized standard in their sourcing policies
- Provide technical advice to GSSI to improve the Benchmark Tool and process
- Ensure that concerns on issues that might affect the Scheme Owners' operations and values are collectively discussed



GSSI Management of Extraordinary Events Policy

In response to impacts caused by COVID-19, GSSI-recognized Scheme Owners have been working diligently to overcome these extraordinary circumstances in order to ensure the greatest possible level of assurance.

With the impacts of the pandemic persisting, it has become clear that health risks and travel restrictions will continue to impact the ability to conduct on-site audits in the foreseeable future (for a minimum of 6-12 months).

The ongoing impacts of the global crisis may also affect the ability of GSSI-recognized Scheme Owners to continue to align with the GSSI Essential Components for certification and auditing. Therefore, we have been working closely with our recognized Scheme Owners to provide a consistent policy and clear guidance for those who wish to continue their recognition status

while managing the impacts of the pandemic and any other extraordinary events.

In June 2020, the GSSI Steering Board agreed that Scheme Owners wishing to continue their GSSI recognition status while managing the impacts of an extraordinary event that affects their ability to continue to align with the GSSI Essential Components for certification and auditing, are required to follow the GSSI Management of Extraordinary Events Policy.



The Global Benchmark Tool V2.0

Benchmark revisions and a build-up to digitalization

Benchmark Revision

An important part of GSSI's work towards version 2.0 has been to revise the **Benchmark Framework**. In this regard, a tremendous amount of work was conducted by our Secretariat, Steering Board and Partners to update and simplify the Benchmark Framework, while also maintaining the benchmark's diligence and alignment with FAO Guidelines.

This revision process took place throughout 2019/2020 and was led by the GSSI Secretariat and supported by three Expert Working Groups (EWGs). One EWG was responsible for Section A&B (Governance and Scheme Management), one for Section C (Aquaculture), and one for Section D (Fisheries).

Thanks to these endeavors, the framework for version 2.0 was successfully updated in the following three important ways:

- An improved component language
- A reduced number of components to minimize complexity while maintaining the benchmark standard
- The inclusion of new FAO Guidelines as supplementary components

Digitalization

As part of the continuous strengthening of assurance that is provided by the Global Benchmark Tool, GSSI has explored opportunities to find a software solution to facilitate its benchmarking processes.

The main objectives behind this digitalization are to **strengthen GSSI's quality assurance system** and **generate more opportunities to facilitate stakeholder engagement**. Additionally, it will enable us to communicate the results of the benchmarking work in different formats. More information about the digitalization of the Tool will be available in 2022!



SEAFOOD MAP

■ Seafood MAP

2020 was a defining year for Seafood MAP. Following a multi-year scoping phase, the program's development kicked off with a **virtual launch event**. Together with **IDH, the Sustainable Trade Initiative** and **Sustainability Incubator**, we delivered the theoretical design for Seafood MAP.

GSSI Partners, including **FAO**, owners of GSSI-recognized **certification schemes**, investors and seafood producers, were consulted, while initial tests evaluated the applicability of proposed features.

The outcome was a robust design, firmly anchored in internationally agreed FAO criteria and the UN Sustainable Development Goals, that was approved by the GSSI Steering Board and is now ready to be built and introduced to those who would like to amplify the impact of their seafood sustainability journey.

Another Step Closer

With the COVID-19 pandemic highlighting the increasing importance of sustainable and resilient food systems, not to mention the diverse challenges brought by such extraordinary events, we are proud of the progress that we made with Seafood MAP – taking us another important step closer to ensuring a resilient seafood supply for future generations.

The Launch

In March 2020, at a webinar hosted by the international news provider, SeafoodSource, GSSI and IDH, the Sustainable Trade Initiative, launched Seafood MAP.

The public launch was attended by more than 170 people, who heard about how **M**easuring and **A**ccelerating the **P**erformance of the global seafood supply is intended to give guidance to producers, while creating opportunities for investors, buyers and others to finance and drive improvements towards sustainable seafood for growing markets in Latin America, Africa, and Asia. Seafood MAP will result in both a framework for examining sustainability and a practical tool for producers – including small-scale producers and aquaculture operations – to start to make improvements.

In the virtual panel, Bill DiMento (High

Liner Foods), Flavio Corsin (IDH, the Sustainable Trade Initiative), Judy Panayos (Sodexo) and Mike Kraft (Bumble Bee Foods) spoke about the tool, advising that it is designed to close the gap between certified and non-certified seafood.

It was disclosed that the framework and tool are intended to work with existing certification schemes by increasing the number of potential producers who can become certified, and that the framework will also include elements not typically included in sustainability certification schemes, such as the carbon footprint of production, the effectiveness of area-based management schemes, and whether a system provides stable livelihoods.

Closing remarks were given by Nianjun Shen (FAO).

"In a fragmented sector like seafood, the alignment and shared learning under Seafood MAP are essential to drive the majority of seafood, that is still uncertified, towards responsible and future-proof practices that can feed the world." **Flavio Corsin**, Aquaculture Director, IDH

The Consultations

Consultations led by the Sustainability Incubator to inform the design of Seafood MAP were held over the spring and summer of 2020. All GSSI Partners were invited to participate, with a total of 15 Partners actively taking part in these dialogues. Other target groups for the consultations comprised investors, owners of GSSI-recognized certification schemes (all 9 schemes participated), governments and producer organizations.

In April 2020, a group of investors and GSSI representatives were convened to jointly discuss potential applications of Seafood MAP and how the program could contribute to aligning market- and finance-driven improvement efforts. Among the consultations' key outcomes, stakeholders broadly **agreed that Seafood MAP could become a meeting place where new relationships will form around mutually-recognized criteria,**

guidance and support—and with a joint focus on encouraging continuous improvements. Another important agreement was for a pre-competitive improvement landscape, built around FAO criteria and the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and with resources for building capacity.

The consultations that took place in 2020 for Seafood MAP were highly important for the program's development. Gathering input from experienced experts is a key aspect of working towards a finalized product. Thank you to all of those who participated!

15
Partners
actively involved in
the consultations

The Tests

A new phase for the Seafood MAP project started in October. Six organizations in six different locations were chosen for an initial round of testing, with a focus on small-scale producers.

The tests were conducted by Sustainability Incubator, the selection criteria were based on the diversity of geographic regions, the current sustainability advancement of the locations, and the balance between fisheries and aquaculture.

Tests were initiated to evaluate the applicability of proposed features. **The result** of this multi-stakeholder process **was a solid design that is now ready to be built** and introduced to everyone who would like to gain **more visibility for their efforts on seafood sustainability and amplify their sustainability impact**. We are excited to build on the results of these tests and expand the pilot testing of Seafood MAP in the coming year!



The Journey

The Seafood MAP design was approved by GSSI's Steering Board in November 2020, along with a 2021 roadmap for implementation. The journey for future Seafood MAP users will follow these steps:

- 1 Create your profile**
share your goals, explain your journey
- 2 Connect/interact with others**
who have similar sustainability goals and/or business interests
- 3 Understand and track**
your sustainability performance, learn from others
- 4 Build credibility**
and validate sustainability milestone(s)
- 5 Demonstrate your achievements**
and highlight your efforts

GSSI-SSCI Collaboration

Improved transparency on social compliance in seafood supply chains lies at the core of improving the sustainability of seafood production globally.

In collaboration with The Consumer Goods Forum's Sustainable Supply Chain Initiative (SSCI), significant progress was made in 2020 toward good social practices in the seafood supply chain.

Key components of the GSSI-SSCI collaboration were realized, namely the

start of the development of the At-Sea Operations Scope and the Primary Production Scope.

The future launch of these scopes will enable our collaborators at SSCI to provide clarity and assurance to the seafood sector on social assurance certification programs.

Thanks to our collaboration, we were able to actively engage seafood stakeholders throughout the development phase and

assure the benchmark criteria reflect the complexities of fishery or aquaculture operations, and also consider the inherently risky nature of work at-sea or in fish farm facilities. We are therefore confident that the SSCI Benchmark will be able to provide the same added-value to the seafood sector on social compliance as the Global Benchmark Tool provides on environmental sustainability.

Impressive Progress

The GSSI Secretariat, together with the Partners who lent their experience as Technical Working Group members, made impressive progress in 2020 despite the impacts of COVID-19. It is with great excitement that we look forward to digitally launching the new scopes with SSCI and continue this important work in 2021 and beyond.

Social Responsibility

Addressing social issues in the seafood value chain

As a global population, we rely heavily on natural resources for food, income, culture, and many other things besides. Therefore, while the seafood sector is an increasingly important provider of food and nutritional for human consumption, it is also critical that the fishers, laborers and vendors that work so hard at so many levels throughout the value chain are recognized and supported.

At GSSI, we maintain that when deliberating the sustainability of the seafood sector, the ethical treatment of workers and the overall social well-being in fisheries and aquaculture cannot be overlooked. We also recognize that there is a fundamental need to address social labor issues in the seafood industry, which is why moving forward **we are making a commitment to be even more inclusive of concerns surrounding labor conditions in seafood supply chains.**

Collaboration

In 2018, GSSI and CGF's SSCI agreed to align and develop a benchmark and recognition tool for social compliance in the seafood sector. The GSSI and SSCI benchmark tools have the same value proposition: providing the industry with access to a list of credible third-party auditing, monitoring and certification programs.

2020 was a year for public consultations and collaborative work behind the scenes to build comprehensive criteria for the benchmark framework.

Together in 2021, SSCI and GSSI will launch the benchmark requirements for the At-Sea Operations and Primary Production scope and open the SSCI benchmark to social compliance schemes operating in the fishing and aquaculture sectors. We believe that through this collaboration, we will have a greater impact within the industry and help drive market alignment on sustainable seafood production and sourcing worldwide.



Progress to Date

2020 was a year of impressive progress; including the development and deliberation of criteria for the Social Benchmark and multiple public consultations to review these criteria. This significant progress means 2021 will mark the launch of the At-Sea Operations and the Primary Production scopes of the Benchmark.



2020

- March–May 2020** ● Between March and May of 2020, **8 Technical Working Group meetings** were held to develop and deliberate the social benchmark criteria.
- June 2020** ● On June 18 2020, a **Scheme Owner Consultation** was held to gather and incorporate key insights from Scheme Owners on the draft social benchmark criteria.
- Jul–Aug 2020** ● From 1 July to 31 August 2020, SSCI and GSSI held a **60-day public consultation to review the draft of the At-Sea Operations Framework**. After receiving more than 25 formal comments on the criteria and holding multiple stakeholder conversations, the work will focus on the integration of such feedback with the support of the Technical Working Group.
- Sep 2020** ● On 29 September 2020, after a first public consultation on At-Sea Operations criteria over the summer, SSCI launched a **60-day public consultation to review Primary Production criteria**. The criteria, developed by industry leaders, experts and stakeholders, cover social and scheme management requirements specifically for third-party social compliance programs evaluating land-based agricultural and aquaculture activities.
- Oct–Dec 2020** ● Between October and December 2020, **the At-Sea Operations Technical Working Group (ASO TWG) reviewed and integrated the input from the first public consultation**. Their integrations were presented during the second public consultation.

2021

- Jan–Feb 2021** ● From 13 January to 12 February 2021, a second public consultation will provide stakeholders with the opportunity **to review the changes made to the draft SSCI At-Sea Operations (ASO) Framework**.
- 2021** ● Early in 2021, a second public consultation will provide stakeholders with the opportunity to **review the changes made to the draft SSCI Primary Production criteria**.

GSSI's contribution to the UN SDGs

FAO collaboration

In order to operationalize and champion internationally agreed guidelines and instruments in the seafood sector, GSSI has worked in close partnership with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) since the founding of GSSI in 2013 and has continued this work in close partnership into 2020.

The FAO Guidelines are at the heart of all GSSI programs, bringing sustainability to the forefront of the work being done to promote clarity, confidence and choice in the seafood sector and to contribute to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



SDG 2 Zero Hunger

End hunger, achieve food security and improve nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture through the recognition of credible aquaculture certification schemes, which align with the FAO Technical Guidelines for Aquaculture Certification.



SDG 8 Decent Work and Economic Growth

Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all by developing a seafood-specific social compliance benchmark tool with the SSCI.



SDG 14 Life below Water

Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development by recognizing and promoting credible seafood certification schemes, which align with the FAO Ecolabelling Guidelines. In 2017, during the UN Ocean Conference, which took place in New York, GSSI was identified as a key partnership to deliver SDG 14.



SDG 12 Sustainable Consumption and Production

Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns by providing confidence in certified seafood, promoting improvement of certification schemes, and providing a responsible roadmap that will increase the number of potential producers who can become certified.



SDG 17 Partnerships for the Goals

Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development by driving seafood sustainability forward through an expansive public-private partnership of 90+ stakeholders.

■ Governance

Stichting Global Sustainable Seafood Initiative (GSSI) is incorporated as a foundation under the law of The Netherlands. The GSSI rules of governance and code of conduct are summarized in the GSSI Charter.

Charter 2020

In 2020 the GSSI released the 3rd version of its Charter. This version includes streamlined Rules of Governance, updated GSSI Communications Policy, which covers how GSSI references its Partners, and how Partners may reference GSSI, and a new Privacy Policy.

The GSSI Steering Board represents the full seafood value chain of companies, NGOs, governments and international organizations – including FAO – and it has continued to play an active role in overseeing GSSI's portfolio and strategic direction over the last two years.

Note:

- No new members joined the GSSI Steering Board in 2020
- The Board held two virtual meetings in June and November 2020

2020

GSSI Steering Board

- **Hugo Byrnes**, Vice President Product Integrity, Ahold Delhaize
- **Dr. Jason Clay**, Senior Vice President Food & Markets | Executive Director Markets Institute, World Wildlife Fund
- **Flavio Corsin**, Director of Partnerships, Aqua-Spark
- **Jennifer Dianto Kemmerly**, Director of Global Fisheries & Aquaculture, Monterey Bay Aquarium
- **Bill DiMento (Chair)**, Vice President of Quality Assurance, Sustainability, & Government Affairs, High Liner Foods Inc.
- **Christian von Dorrien**, Leader Fisheries & Environment Research Group, Institute of Baltic Sea Fisheries, Thünen Institute
- **John Garner**, retired Seafood Executive
- **Lisa Goché**, Vice President, Grobest
- **Peter Hajjipieris**, Global Responsibility & External Affairs, Regal Springs
- **Wakao Hanaoka**, Founder/CEO, Seafood Legacy
- **Dr. Audun Lem**, Deputy Director of the Policy & Resources Division in the Fisheries and Aquaculture Department, FAO
- **Annika Mackensen**, Advisor Sustainable Fisheries & Aquaculture, GIZ
- **Ángel Matamoro Irago**, Chief Corporate Social Responsibility & Institutional Relations Officer, Nueva Pescanova Group
- **Darian McBain**, Global Director of Sustainability, Thai Union
- **Judy Panayos**, Senior Director, Sustainability Supply Management, Sodexo
- **Elisabeth Vallet**, Director, Ethic Ocean
- **Andrea K. Weber**, Director Corporate Responsibility, METRO AG

2020

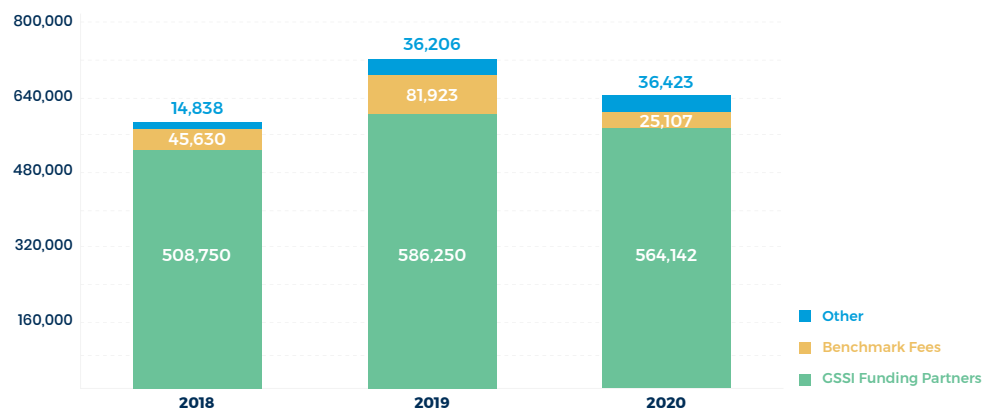
GSSI Secretariat

- **Meghan Haupt**, Benchmark Associate
- **Olivier Hersperger**, Communications & Outreach Officer
- **Michelle Likier**, Administration & Operations Officer
- **Eva Mudde**, Development & Innovation Officer
- **Katrina Rowley Clem**, Partnership Officer
- **Eva van Heukelom**, Technical Manager
- **Herman Wisse**, Executive Director

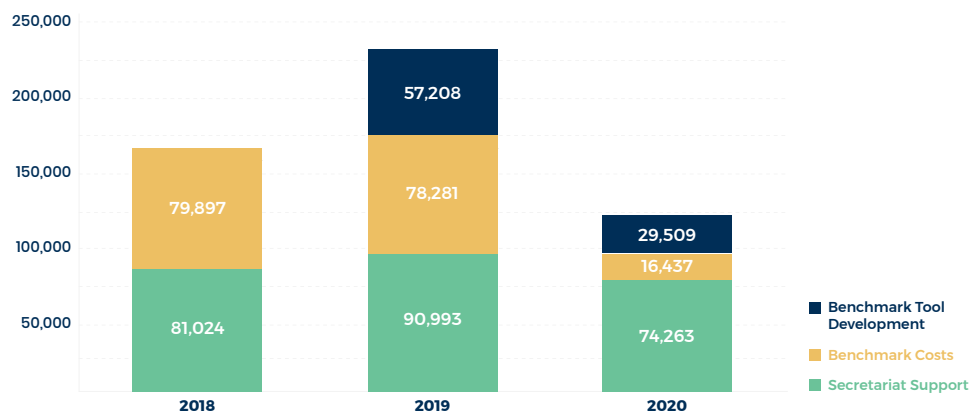
■ Finance

2020 financial statement

Income (in €)



Benchmark costs (in €)



2020 Year End

INCOME € 625,672

Partnership Income	€	564,142
Benchmark Fees	€	25,107
Other Income	€	36,423

BENCHMARK COSTS € 120,210

Benchmark Costs	€	16,437
Benchmark Tool Development	€	29,509
Secretariat Support Benchmark Activities	€	74,263

OPERATIONAL COSTS € 395,128

GSSI Secretariat Costs	€	301,477
Premises	€	15,617
Travel	€	8,638
Marketing & Communications	€	20,784
Office & Operating Costs	€	15,988
Strategic	€	0
Legal, Insurance, Accounting	€	31,385
Depreciation	€	1,239

RESULT € 110,334

In addition to the above, in 2020, IDH provided direct funding to the development of the GSSI Seafood MAP Program.



Design: Roos Pethke
Coordination: April Blackwood, GSSI/
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